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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BROMSGROVE

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

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R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the Year 1966

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BROMSGROVE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR 1966

Chairman of the Council	T.A. ELLIOTT ESQ., J.P.
Vice Chairman of the Council	A.H. HODGETTS, ESQ.
Chairman of the Public Health Committee	G.A. SOUTH ESQ.

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	C.H. PHILLIPS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	P.P. CHAMINGS, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector)
Additional Public Health Inspector	R.F. ROBINS, M.A.P.H.I., (Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector)
Assistant Public Health Inspector	K.J. SMITH
Student	S.L. MOORE
Clerk	MRS. P.V. WOOLLASTON

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1966

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report on the health of the Rural District of Bromsgrove during the year ended 31st December 1966.

Owing to boundary changes there was a small reduction of about 40 acres in the total area of the District. The population was reduced by about 3,590 and the total number of houses was 1010 less than in 1965.

The general health of the population remained satisfactory. There was a small reduction in the total live births and a small increase in the standardised birth rate. There was little change in total deaths while the standardised death rate fell again. The major cause of death continues to be due to diseases of the circulatory system.

There was no serious outbreak of infectious disease, while the total notifications of infectious disease was reduced mainly due to the lower incidence of measles. The total of registered tuberculosis cases continued to decline.

Except where contra-indicated, immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and poliomyelitis is usually carried out during the first year, generally between the ages of three and six months. Vaccination against smallpox - assuming that all the primary immunisations were done in the first year, this would account for only about 56% of the average of live births in the years 1965 and 1966. Although there has not been a case of diphtheria in the District for some years it is desirable that the percentage of children immunised against diphtheria needs to be increased. There is also a complacent attitude towards smallpox vaccination.

Three serious nuisances occurred in the District. The first was a most obnoxious smell which occurred as a result of a new bristle manufacturing process being started in the District. This, incidentally, also greatly added to the overloading of the local sewage works by fat, protein matter and bristles, with the result that the works became virtually ineffective and serious pollution occurred in the stream taking the effluent from it. Considerable relief was obtained by spray irrigation of the effluent on to grasslands and, of course, by the discontinuation of the process.

The second nuisance arose out of the spraying of liquid chicken manure on fields in the vicinity of houses. Some improvement occurred as a result of the use of a 'deodorizer' with the liquid manure. Enquiries suggested that formaldehyde was the deodorising agent. This produces its effect by paralysing the organs of smell and the question arises as to whether this constitutes an infringement of the liberty of the subject which may be tested in the Courts one day.

The third was the foul smell resulting from the failure of the cold digestion tanks at the Hagley sewage works. This has been a problem for a number of years and has occurred in certain weather conditions in the summer months. The Council has been greatly concerned about ways and means of dealing with the problem and a number of proposals have been considered.

I would like to express my appreciation of the work done by the Public Health Inspectors, the assistance of the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and Officers of other departments.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C.H. PHILLIPS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres 45,071	
Registrar General's estimate of resident population	Mid 1966 - 37,400
	Mid 1965 - 40,990
	Mid 1947 - 25,230
	Mid 1937 - 19,620
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book	End of 1966 - 11,047
	End of 1965 - 12,057
	End of 1964 - 11,963
	End of 1963 - 11,428
	End of 1947 - 7,798
	End of 1937 - 6,645
Rateable Value 31st March 1966	£1,289,621
Sum represented by a Penny Rate at 31st March 1966	£5,250

POPULATION BY PARISHES

	1939	Estimated 1966
Alvechurch	3,236	6,700
Belbroughton	2,676	2,750
Bentley Pauncefoot	344	340
Beoley	770	900
Clent	1,943	2,400
Cofton Hackett	3,736	2,100
Dodford-with-Grafton	513	640
Frankley	184	150
Hagley	2,233	5,650
Hunnington	543	670
Romsley	1,070	1 750
Stoke Prior	2,130	2,950
Tutnall & Cobley	697	900
Wythall	4,482	9,500
	24,557	37,400

Average per house 3.38

VITAL STATISTICS

(1965 figures in brackets)

LIVE BIRTHS

	M	F	Total
Legitimate	390 (418)	324 (372)	714 (790)
Illegitimate	15 (18)	15 (14)	30 (32)
	405 (436)	339 (386)	744 (822)

Birth Rate (Births per 1,000 population)

	1966	1965	1964	1963	1937	1966-Eng.Wales
Crude	19.89	20.05	19.37	20.15	14.1	17.7 (18.1)
Comparability Factor	0.93	0.90	0.90	0.91		
Standardised	18.49	18.04	17.43	18.33		

Illegitimacy Rate (Total live illegitimate births per hundred total Live Births)

1966	1965	1964	1963	1937
4.03	3.89	3.30	3.35	3.20

STILL BIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	6	10 (14)
Illegitimate	1	-	1 (1)
	5	6	11 (15)

Still Birth Rate (Still births per 1,000 total live and still births)

1966	1965	1964	1963	1937	1966-Eng.Wales
14.56	17.92	12.72	15.8	38.1	15.4 (15.7)

DEATHS

M.		F.		Total	
176	(185)	158	(155)	334	(340)

Death Rate (Deaths per 1,000 population)

	1966	1965	1964	1963	1937	1966-Eng. Wales
Crude	8.93	8.29	8.94	10.04	11.1	11.7 (11.5)
Comparability Factor	1.11	1.21	1.22	1.22		
Standardised	9.91	10.03	10.90	12.24		

Major Causes of Deaths (Percentages of Total Deaths)

	1966	1965	1964	1963
1. Disease of the Circulatory System	48.5%	51.5%	47.0%	47.2%
2. Malignant Diseases	18.2%	17.9%	20.3%	19.9%
3. Respiratory Diseases (excluding T.B.)	14.1%	11.8%	10.6%	15.3%
4. Violent and Accidental Deaths	3.6%	6.8%	7.4%	5.9%

MATERNAL DEATHS

Maternal Mortality (Maternal Deaths per 1,000 total live and still births)

1966	1965	1964	1963	1937	1966-Eng. Wales
NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	(0.25)

INFANT AND NEONATAL DEATHS

Infant Deaths (under 1 year of age)

	M	F	Total
Legitimate	8	11	19 (11)
Illegitimate	-	-	- (-)
	8	11	19 (11)

Neonatal Deaths (under 4 weeks of age)

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	6	9	15 (8)
Illegitimate	-	-	- (-)
	6	9	15 (8)

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

Legitimate	6	9	15 (7)
Illegitimate	-	-	- (-)
	6	9	15 (7)

Infant and Neonatal Mortality Rates

	1966	1965	1964	1963	1966-Eng. Wales
Deaths of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	26.61	13.92	24.62	12.48	- -
Deaths of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	-	80.00	40.00	- -
Deaths of infants under 4 wks. of age per 1,000 total live births	20.16	9.73	17.19	8.04	12.9
Deaths of infants under 1 yr. of age per 1,000 total live births	25.53	13.38	26.45	13.40	19.0
Still births & deaths under 1 wk. combined per 1,000 total live & still births	34.43	26.28	27.41	22.42	26.3

Causes of Infant Deaths

Congenital Malformation	5
Prematurity	7
Respiratory Disease	3
Other Causes	4

CAUSES OF DEATHS IN THE BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT

1966

Causes of Death	M.	F	Total	Mortality Rate per 1,000 pop.
1. Tuberculosis respiratory	-	2	2	.05
2. Tuberculosis other	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	1	-	1	.03
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1	.03
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	2	2	.05
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung & bronchus	18	2	20	.53
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	4	4	.10
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	3	3	.08
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	16	32	.85
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	1	-	1	.03
17. Vascular Lesions of nervous system	15	32	47	1.25
18. Coronary Disease, angina	37	21	58	1.55
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	3	7	.18
20. Other heart disease	16	21	37	.99
21. Other circulatory disease	8	5	13	.34
22. Influenza	1	1	2	.05
23. Pneumonia	13	11	24	.64
24. Bronchitis	16	4	20	.53
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1	.03
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1	.03
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-	1	.03
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	5	-	5	.13
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformation	1	3	4	.10
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	14	22	36	.96
33. Motor vehicle accidents	4	3	7	.18
34. All other accidents	-	3	3	.08
35. Suicide	2	-	2	.05
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	176	158	334	8.93

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

The County Council administers the antenatal, child welfare, school health, dental and specialist clinics, where much valuable work is done towards the preservation of the health of the community and the prevention of disease.

The Health Visiting, Home Nursing and Midwifery Services, provided by the County Council supported by the services managed by the W.V.S., and the British Red Cross, continued to provide invaluable domiciliary help.

(a) Hospital Services

The following hospitals were available to the residents of the district:-

Infectious Disease	Hayley Green Hospital, Halesowen Little Bromwich Fever Hospital, Birmingham
Tuberculosis	Knightwick Sanatorium Hayley Green Sanatorium, Halesowen
Maternity	The General Hospital, Bromsgrove Mary Stevens Maternity Hospital, Stourbridge Lucy Baldwins Maternity Hospital, Stourport The Birmingham Maternity Hospital, Birmingham
Children's Diseases	Children's Hospital, Birmingham
Venereal Disease	General Hospital, Birmingham Royal Infirmary, Worcester
Mental Illness	Barnsley Hall Mental Hospital, Bromsgrove Powick Mental Hospital, Malvern
Chest Surgery	Hill Top Hospital, Bromsgrove
General	The General Hospital, Bromsgrove Bromsgrove Cottage Hospital Smallwood Hospital, Redditch
Aged Chronic Sick	The General Hospital, Bromsgrove

(b) Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological examinations were carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Royal Infirmary, Worcester. Chemical analysis of water and miscellaneous specimens was carried out by the County Laboratory at Worcester. I am indebted to the Directors of these laboratories for their ready assistance and co-operation.

(c) Ambulance Service

This is provided by the County Council and the Rural District is served from depots at Bromsgrove and Redditch.

(d) Health Education

The Council contributes to the Central Council for Health Education. Health Education is carried out mainly by the County Council.

(e) Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels services were continued in the Hagley and Wythall areas through the agency of the W.V.S. The total of meals delivered was as follows:

Hagley	868
Wythall	1,319

1. Sanitary Inspection of the Area

The Chief Public Health Inspector in his report gives details of the Sanitary Inspections carried out during the year.

2. Water Supply

The whole supply of main water in the District is now the responsibility of various statutory water undertakings.

Most of the houses in the district were supplied with main piped water supplies which were satisfactory in quality and quantity. There were still, however, some dwellings and farm premises with only well water supplies. These well supplies were to a large extent unsatisfactory and householders were advised to boil the water before use.

Routine sampling of drinking water from private wells, springs and boreholes for bacteriological and chemical analysis was continued during the year. The results were very poor, 68% were bacteriologically unsatisfactory while 14% were chemically unsatisfactory.

Sampling at source of main supplies was done by the Water Undertakings.

During the year the following extensions of mains were effected:-

The City of Birmingham Water Department	1,314 yards
East Worcestershire Waterworks Company	2,041 yards
The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company	-
North West Worcestershire Water Board	1,363 yards

The following was the position with regard to the schemes for water main extensions:-

Alvechurch

Lea End	In abeyance
Ash Lane	Work in hand.

Bentley Pauncefoot

Coxian and Holyoakes Cottages	Work completed.

Beoley

Moss Lane Close	Work completed

Stoke Prior

Finch End & Finstall Park Farm	In abeyance

3. Drainage and Sewerage

The following are the sewage disposal works situated in the District:-

Alvechurch	Lye Bridge
Clent	Hossill Lane
Belbroughton	Weybridge
Hagley	Sweetpool Lane
Hunnington	Illey Lane
Finstall	Pumping Station to Bromsgrove U.D.C.
Stoke Prior	Henbrook Disposal Works, Shaw Lane
Wythall	This was transferred to Upper Tame Main Drainage Authority on 1st April, 1966.

Apart from schemes which have been previously considered and are at present in abeyance, the general position with regard to schemes for sewers and sewage disposal at the end of the year was as follows:-

Alvechurch

Village area	Work completed
Lye Bridge Extension	Work commenced
Grange Lane	Engineers preparing scheme including provision of equipment for pumping to Lye Bridge Disposal Works

Belbroughton

Fairfield) Stoneybridge Extension)	Approved in principle by Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Invitation of tenders authorised.

Beoley

Holt End	Necessary land acquired. Scheme, including the type of "package" plant proposed, approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government but execution deferred owing to restrictions on capital expenditure.

Clent and Hagley	
Re-siting of sludge disposal installation (from Hagley to Hossill Lane, Clent)	Ministerial Inquiry into engineering details of this scheme and to hear objections to confirmation of compulsory purchase was held. Application for confirmation of compulsory purchase order dismissed. Scheme for installation of temporary sludge treatment works prepared and approved by Council for submission to Minister.
Frankley	
M.5 service area	Completed.
Hunnington	
Illey Lane works reconstruction and extension. Storm overflow provision in Halesowen/Bromsgrove Road.	Consulting Engineers have been instructed to revise scheme. As an alternative an approach has been made to authorities concerned as to possibility of conveyance of sewage to disposal works of Upper Stour Main Drainage Authority.
Stoke Prior	
Henbrook works extension	Amended scheme prepared and ready for submission to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, upon receipt of observations by Worcestershire County Council. Spray irrigation equipment installed to alleviate matters until scheme executed and loan sanction has been received.
Wythall	
Inkford and Tanners Green area	Engineers instructed to hold in abeyance pending information as to the intention of the new Upper Tame Drainage Board relative disposal.
Shawbrook area	No action taken pending progress with Houndsfield Works extension scheme. Will now have to be agreed with new Upper Tame Drainage Board.
Houndsfield Lane Works reconstruction and extension	This works was transferred on 1st April, 1966, to the Upper Tame Main Drainage Authority and this Council have no further responsibility for sewage treatment.

Pail Emptying

The pail emptying service was continued at weekly intervals in areas of the Parishes of Beoley, Frankley, Stoke Prior and Wythall.

A total of 94 households were served.

4. Public Cleansing

This service is administered by the Surveyor's Department. Domestic refuse is collected weekly in the built up areas of the district and fortnightly in the more rural areas. Cesspools are emptied free of charge three times a year.

SECTION D

HOUSING

As will be seen from figures under Section A of this report the population of the district was decreased by 3,590. This was due to the boundary change. At the end of the year there were 600 applicants on the Council's housing list compared with 636 at the end of 1965.

75 Council houses and flats were first let during the year while 236 were built by private enterprise.

Details of action taken under the Housing and Public Health Acts are included in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Routine inspections of food premises were continued during the year and every effort was made to ensure clean and safe handling of foodstuffs. Further reference to the subject is made in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.

Food Poisoning

No case of food poisoning was notified during the year.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases 1966

DISEASE	Corrected Notifications
Smallpox	-
Diphtheria	-
Scarlet Fever	17
Measles	156
Whooping Cough	14
Typhoid Fever	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-
Dysentery	-
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-
Acute Encephalitis	1
Erysipelas	1
Acute Pneumonia	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-
Malaria	-
Food Poisoning	-
TOTAL	192

Diphtheria Immunisation

The number of children immunised during the year was as follows:-

Primary Immunisation

Under 7 years old	443	(608)
7 - 16 years old	3	(9)
	446	(617)
Re-inforcing (Booster) injections	1106	(731)

Smallpox

No case of smallpox was reported.

Number of persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) during 1966:-

Age at 31.12.66 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1966	1 1965	2 - 4 1962 - 1964	5 - 15 1951 - 1961	Total
Number vaccinated	35	359	138	23	555
Number revaccinated	-	-	5	25	30

Whooping Cough

Number of children who have completed a primary course (normally 3 injections) of pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) in the Authority's area during the year ended 31.12.66:-

0 - 4 years	5 - 16 years	Total
347	6	353

Tuberculosis

Incidence & Mortality during 1966

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	2	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
65 & over	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	4	1	2	-	1	1	-	-

Five cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and two cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year.

The total number of registered cases was 107 (136) as follows:-

	M.	F.	Total
Pulmonary	53	46	99
Non-Pulmonary	6	2	8
	59	48	107

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1966

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year 1966, which again has been a year of steady progress in the work of the Department.

Repairs and reconditioning of sub-standard houses continued, ten applications for Discretionary Grants being approved and work on 17 houses was completed during the year. Forty-two Standard Grants were approved in addition and grant work was completed at 45 houses in the year. These were all brought up to the full standard and the average Standard Grant paid during the year was £180 per house.

Six Closing Orders and three Demolition Orders were made; two Closing Orders were revoked and Demolition Orders substituted and one undertaking was accepted under the Housing Act 1957.

The five private slaughterhouses continued to operate, and all the animals slaughtered, viz; 486 cattle and cows, 17 calves, 2,449 sheep and lambs and 435 pigs were inspected. It was only necessary to condemn some 7½ cwt. of meat and offal, which reflects the high standard of the animals slaughtered.

A total of 187 samples of food were taken for bacteriological examination. Only five of the 91 ice cream samples were in Grade 3, all the others being satisfactory and all the 96 cooked meat etc., samples were negative for organisms of salmonella and dysentery.

The reduction of the number of premises registered under the Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act was brought about by the transfer of a number of premises to the City of Birmingham consequent on boundary changes.

It is pleasing to note that at long last invitation of tenders was authorised for the Fairfield Sewage Scheme, which when carried out will remedy a considerable public health hazard and source of long standing complaints.

Finally I would refer to the complaints of noise which were received and entailed some fifty visits, many during the evenings and week-ends, where the "beat groups" disturbed the peace of the local residents. In one case the noise in the hall exceeded that of a pneumatic drill.

I would acknowledge the loyal support of my staff in carrying out the many and varied duties devolving on my Department and I am grateful to the Chairman, Members of the Health Committee and Chief Officers of the Council for their helpful co-operation at all times.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

PEARSON P. CHAMINGS

Chief Public Health Inspector

COMPLAINTS

A total of 202 complaints were received during the year 1966 all of which were investigated and appropriate action taken.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following are the numbers and nature of Inspections made during the year:-

Houses Inspected	845
Number of inspections and re-inspections of houses	1973
Inspections under Housing Regulations	-
Visits re complaints and nuisances	202
Visits re Meat Inspection	568
Visits re Notifiable Diseases	15
Milk and Dairies	2
Piggeries	81
Schools	1
Factories and Workshops	29
Outworkers' Premises	-
Tents 'Vans and Sheds	191
Water Supply	88
Works in Progress	423
Drainage	549
Shops etc. (re unfit food)	9
Visits to shops and food premises	510
Rodent Control	76
Canal Boats	-
Outside Interviews	669
Verminous Premises	-
Miscellaneous	467
Offices & Shops	72
Animal Boarding Establishments	33
Total number of informal notices served during the year	47

HOUSING

1. Inspections of Dwelling-houses during the year:-

(i)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	845
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	1973
(ii)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	Nil
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(iii)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	13
(iv)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) not found to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	33

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 75

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

A. Proceedings under Section 9,10 and 12 of the Housing Act 1957:-

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs -

(ii) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices

(a) by Owners -

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners -

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 2

(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices

(a) by Owners 2

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners -

C. Proceedings under Sections 16 and 23 of the Housing Act 1957:-

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 3

(ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure 12

(iii) Number of Undertakings accepted under Section 16 1

(iv) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made 6

General - Housing

Three Demolition Orders were made during the year. Twelve sub-standard houses were demolished as a result of formal and informal action.

Discretionary Grants

Applications were approved during the year for 10 houses.

Work was completed at 17 houses and grants totalling £5,789 were certified for payment.

Standard Grants

Forty-two applications were approved during the year. Certificates for payment of grants totalling £8,112.18.0 were issued in respect of 45 houses.

Rent Act 1957

No applications for a Certificate of Disrepair were received during the year. One Certificate of Disrepair was cancelled during the year, the necessary repairs having been carried out.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The Camping Club of Great Britain continued to maintain their holiday site at Romsley in a satisfactory manner.

Twenty-seven licences in respect of a total of 347 Caravans were in force during the year.

INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk

As the District was in a "specified area" all milk sold to the public had to be under one of the authorised Special Designations and consequently no samples of non designated milk were taken. It will be appreciated that a large percentage of the milk retailed in the District was bottled in other Authorities' areas where it was regularly sampled.

(b) Meat and Other Foods

There are five licensed slaughterhouses in the District. All animals were inspected and this entailed some extra work at weekends and in evenings.

Following is a summary of the inspections and condemnations which took place:-

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs and Sheep	Pigs
Number Killed	484	2	17	2449	435
Number inspected	484	2	17	2449	435
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	1	8	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	-	-	18	5
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	2.97%	-	5.88%	1.06%	1.14%
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	.23%

Routine visits were made to food shops, cafes and public houses for the inspection of premises and examination of food stuffs and, in the main, conditions were reasonably satisfactory.

During the year 96 samples of various foodstuffs, including cooked meats, pies, sausages etc. were taken from premises within the district and submitted for examination. In no case was the organism of salmonella or dysentery found.

The following is a summary of foodstuffs of various kinds which were condemned as unfit for human consumption at retail food premises during the year:-

46 Tins of Fruit, Vegetables, Milk, Meat, etc.
2 Jars Preserves

(c) Ice Cream

The total number of registrations in force for premises for the manufacture of ice cream was one and for the retail sale only 117.

Ninety-one samples were submitted during the year for bacteriological examination and the results of the samples were as follows:-

Provisional Grade	1	68	Satisfactory
	2	18	Satisfactory
	3	5	Unsatisfactory
	4	-	Unsatisfactory

The unsatisfactory samples were followed up and satisfactory results obtained.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT

Fifteen licences to slaughter animals were issued under the above Act during the year.

HOUSE DRAINAGE

Twelve existing houses were provided with cesspools during the year.

Also 291 new houses were connected to sewers and 8 to cesspools.

The question of providing sewers to various parts of the District and improving disposal works where necessary was considered by the Council during the year.

WATER SUPPLY

MAINS

Six samples of mains water were submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination and were satisfactory. One sample submitted for bacteriological examination only was also satisfactory.

PRIVATE WELLS AND SPRINGS

Seven samples of water from private wells and springs were submitted for both chemical and bacteriological examination; of these 6 were chemically satisfactory and 3 bacteriologically satisfactory; 1 was chemically unsatisfactory and 4 bacteriologically unsatisfactory.

Fifteen samples were taken for bacteriological examination only of which 4 were satisfactory and 11 unsatisfactory.

Twenty-five existing premises were connected to the water main in 1966.

NEW MAINS LAID

A total of 4718 yards of new mains were laid by the various Water Undertakings within the District during the year. These extensions were principally to supply new development in various parishes.

DISINFESTATION

No house was found to be in need of disinfestation.

All the Council refuse tips were periodically treated for flies and crickets where necessary by the Surveyor's Department.

RODENT CONTROL

A full time Rodent Operative is employed. A total of 589 infestations of private houses and business premises and 128 agricultural premises were successfully treated. A total of 1,166 visits were made.

During the year the Council continued to provide a free service for the destruction of rats at private dwellings but in the case of business premises a charge was made as previously.

Fifty-three contracts were made for the treatment of business and agricultural premises during the year and the income from this source amounted to £311.10.0.

Due to the co-operation of the public, possibly because of free service, 191 infestations were notified. These were in early stages and were thus only of a minor nature but it seems essential to continue the service to prevent any large-scale build-up.

OFFICES, SHOPS, & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

At the end of 1966, the number of premises registered was as follows:-

Offices	19
Retail Shops	71
Catering Establishments	32

I would point out that many of the shops in this District are family businesses, not employing staff, and therefore not subject to registration under the Act.

Offices at factories subject to the Factories Act are registered with H.M. Inspector of Factories and not the Council.

Two accidents to employees were notified during the year, but in neither case did it appear due to any breach of the Act.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1949

Two cases occurred during the course of the year where it was necessary to make arrangements for the burial, under the provisions of the above Act, of a person dying within the District.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

The number of industrial premises is not large and as a result air pollution from factory chimneys did not present a problem.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Licences in respect of 16 boarding establishments were issued during the year.

FACTORIES ACT 1937 AND 1948

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	-	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	79	26	-	-
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers premises)	10	3	-	-
TOTAL	91	29	-	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

PARTICULARS	No. of Cases in which defects found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			Referred		
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	1	-	1	-